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Working of the modified form of compulsory education.

*468 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state in how many places the new modified form of compulsion as enacted by the beginning of this year has been introduced; what those places are and when such compulsion has been introduced in each of such places, and how the scheme is working in each of such places?

A.—The modified form of compulsory elementary education has not as yet been introduced in any area.

Inspection of elementary schools by District Educational Officers during the last triennium.

*469 *Q.*—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state the number of elementary schools visited during the last three years by the District Educational Officers in the respective districts districtwar?

A.—The Government have not the information.

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"May I know from the Hon. Minister whether the District Educational Officers ever visited the elementary schools at all?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"It is not part of their normal duty. They exercise the general power of supervision over deputy inspectors. They may visit some schools."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"Is it a fact that there is a provision in the rules that the District Educational Officer should visit 10 per cent of the schools?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Not as far as I know."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Does not the Government think it desirable that some of the schools are inspected by the District Educational Officer?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"It would be desirable that they inspect these schools if it was possible for them and if they had the time. I do not think it is possible for them to inspect any considerable number of schools."

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"In view of the fact that a lot of corruption is prevailing among the deputy inspectors, may I know whether it would not be desirable on the part of the Government to insist upon a certain percentage of elementary schools being visited every year by the District Educational Officer?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I do not admit the premises."

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Mr. G. Rameswara Rao :—" Does the District Educational Officer generally know the language of the district he is posted to? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar :—" I think such postings of officers who know the language are arranged as far as possible."

Excise

Restrictions on the marking of coconut trees in and around Salem town for tapping.

* 470 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the reasons are for the change in the conditions for the sale of toddy shops in and around Salem town;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that trees are not marked in and around Salem town to a limited radius for any other shop except those in Salem town and its outskirts during this year;

(*c*) if so, whether the same principle was strictly followed during last year and the year before; if not, what the reasons are for imposing such conditions this year ; and

(*d*) what the normal rent value was of a coconut tree for tapping toddy in each of the years of 1932–33, 1933–34, 1934–35 and what it is in the current year 1935–36 in the said area ; if there be great reduction, what the reasons therefor are?

A.—(*a*) The hon. Member presumably refers to the sale of five toddy shops in Salem town and ten rural toddy shops adjoining them, in one group, for a period of two years commencing from the 1st October 1935. The shops were sold in one group because there were no bids for them when they were put up in auction separately. Sale by groups is a recognized method of disposing of shops if local circumstances render it desirable.

(*b*) to (*d*) The Government have no information.

*[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION *RE* ALLEGED GOVERNMENT INTERFERENCE IN DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS IN WEST GODAVARI.

* Mr. P. Peddi Raju :—" Under Standing Order No. 19, I beg leave to move that the business of the House be adjourned for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the interference of the Government in the district board elections in West Godavari.

" The elections were held on the 28th of last month, and orders were issued a few days previous to that and subsequently."

Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" I second it."

* The Hon. the President :—" Will the hon. Member briefly state his reasons? "